

STATE OF MICHIGAN



THE DISTRICT COURT

21ST JUDICIAL DISTRICT
6000 MIDDLEBELT ROAD
GARDEN CITY, MICHIGAN 48135

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RICHARD HAMMER
DISTRICT JUDGE

May 22, 2007

Representative Paul Condino
Committee Chair, Judiciary Committee
House of Representatives
State of Michigan
P O Box 30014
Lansing, MI 48909-7514

RE: House Bill 4420

Dear Representative Condino:

I am writing as the judge of the 21st District Court. Please let me take this opportunity to express opposition to HB4420 which has been referred to the Judiciary Committee. This bill proposes to merge the 20th and 21st District Courts.

This bill will adversely affect this court, the court staff and the citizens of the district. Unfortunately, neither I nor the judge of the 20th District Court was consulted before this bill was introduced and we have had only limited conversations since. Consequently the impact that this bill would have on substantive matters involving justice, efficient court administration, as well as its fiscal impact are largely unexplored, and are certainly significant.

In the event that this bill is further considered by the Committee I would respectfully request an opportunity to be heard in response. If you have any questions, please contact me at (734)793-1682.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Richard Hammer".

Richard Hammer
District Judge

RLH:jaj